

MINUTES

Special Board of Directors Meeting  
Radisson Governors Inn & Washington Duke Inn and Golf Club  
Tuesday, July 31, 2001 & Friday, August 3, 2001

Present at First Session

E'Vonne Coleman	Barbara Smith
Ron Hunter	Thomas Devine
Bill Kalkhof	Shelly Green
John Mallard	Reyn Bowman
Tom Niemann	

Absent

Mary Jacobs

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Absent

Mary Jacobs	Bill Kalkhof
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At 5 p.m. July 31<sup>st</sup>, after a briefing and discussion with Mayor Tennyson, the GM Roundtable and the Durham Visitor Sector Advisory Board, Chairman Ron Hunter called the meeting to order.

After a thorough discussion of the proposal by the Mayor to raise the occupancy tax to fund a downtown theater and the relative merits of a prepared food tax, the Board voted unanimously to meet along with cultural representatives with Representative Luebke regarding the prepared food tax accord prior to taking a position on the new proposal to fund a downtown theater with an increase to the occupancy tax.

At 10 a.m. August 3<sup>rd</sup>, after a thorough discussion with Representative Luebke and representatives of Downtown, Carolina Theater, Historic Preservation Society, Museum of Life and Science, Durham Symphony, Durham Arts Council and others, Chairman Hunter reconvened the DCVB Board:

After thorough discussion, the Board voted unanimously to forward the following response to the Mayor and Commissioner Black:

The DCVB Board of Directors, caring deeply about visitors, visitor related economic development, fueling the local business climate, expanding the local tax base and redevelopment of Downtown Durham is unable to support the very recent, untimely and, inequitable proposed one (1) percent increase in Occupancy Tax to be used as partial debt service for the intriguing proposal for a new theater adjacent to the ballpark.

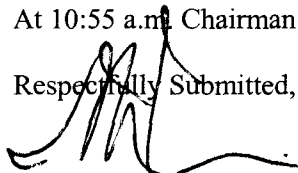
In advocating this position, we note that over the last six years, the Board and staff of the Bureau has worked to determine possible methods for broad based support for new and existing cultural facilities/operations/marketing and has made significant efforts to include affected and interested parties in its deliberations.

We believe all interested parties have an obligation to pursue alternative win/win sources, which would sustain and generate visitors and support enhancements to existing cultural/historic/sports facilities without putting the burden on one segment of our community.

We are proud of the consensus we have helped and continue to shape favoring a one percent (a penny on a dollar) tax on prepared food. But we also recognize that further investigation and collaboration is called for in order to effect a workable and fair solution. We look forward to playing a continuing role in achieving these goals.

At 10:55 a.m. Chairman Hunter adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tom Niemann  
Secretary/Treasurer